

3rd Annual David Nuckols Memorial Invitational Welding Competition

Nelson County ATC welders once again triumph

KY Tech - Caldwell County ATC wins 3rd



**KY Tech-Nelson Co. ATC
delegation**

Instructor Joe Grider's students once again earned top honors at the David Nuckols Memorial Invitational Welding Competition in Owensboro, KY on January 22, 2011. Their tradition was extended for a second straight year by winning both the team and individual welding awards during the third annual event.

Grider:

"We have a strong welding program. It is my hope that we can continue to enroll students who have the will to learn one of the many skilled crafts that are in short supply."

"I have always encouraged my students to work hard and do their best - win or lose."

"We appreciate the opportunity to compete and believe that events like this bring out the best talents in our students."

Student welders from the KY Tech-Caldwell Co. ATC took third place.

Sponsored by Titan Contracting & Leasing Co. (a Horn Industrial Service), the annual competition was held at the Horn Corporate Training Center in Owensboro, KY. Seventeen secondary and postsecondary schools were represented by 33 of their most talented students who demonstrated skills in SMAW, FCAW and GTAW welding processes. A written test was given to cover general knowledge of welding processes and procedures.

From the inception of the David Nuckols Memorial Invitational competition, Titan human resource recruiter Dave Tames, CSP, SPHR has been actively involved in coordination of the event. He and company officials understand its value for students as well as the industry.

Tames:

“This dedicated private/public sector partnership is devoted to promoting and building a pipeline of future Kentucky welders - with hopes of ultimately enhancing the state’s employment growth by giving students the opportunity to evaluate this career path.”

Purpose of the competition

- To be an asset to the community.
- Assess each contestant’s mastery of welding knowledge and skills to recognize outstanding student scholarship and professionalism.
- To further the students desire to pursue a career in welding, self confidence, and the development of student pride in craftsmanship.



3rd Annual David Nuckols Memorial Invitational Welding Competition

School Winners:

(combined contestant scores - academic and welding)

- 1st - KY Tech - Nelson County ATC**
- 2nd - Owensboro Community & Technical College (OCTC)**
- 3rd - Caldwell Co. ATC**

Individual Welding Winners:

- 1st - Craig Mattingly, KY Tech-Nelson County ATC**
- 2nd - Brad Byassee, KY Tech-Caldwell Co. ATC**
- 3rd - Elliott Williams, KY Tech-Nelson Co. ATC**

Individual Academic Winners:

(top individual welding knowledge scores on written test)

- 1st - Adam Ashby, OCTC**
- 2nd - Shawn Pape, Earl C. Clements Job Corps**
- 3rd - Brad Byassee, KY Tech-Caldwell Co. ATC**



Brad Byassee

Mickey Bayer
KY Tech-Caldwell Co. ATC:

“We are always excited to see our students display the self-confidence and determination to succeed in competitive events.

“Being able to participate in competitive events allows our students to take what they have learned in the classroom and deliver their mastery of welding knowledge and skills in front of industry professionals. They also have an opportunity to talk about the value of a welding career with those who are and have been in the field.

“We are proud of how our students performed because it’s like taking a performance test – it makes them work harder and brings out their best talents.”



**KY Tech-Caldwell Co. ATC
delegation**



Terry Miller
OCTE manufacturing technology academic consultant:

“We want to thank Titan Contracting and Horn Industries for their support of technical education. The 3rd Annual David Nuckols Invitational Welding Tournament proved to be a great challenge. Welding students competed both in academic and performance skill contests. This type of competition helps everyone focus on their abilities and the skills they must master to go to the next level.

“KY Tech has always had a direct commitment to business and industry in preparing young people for the future. We are fortunate to have partners like Titan and Horn Industries that share in that vision and goal.”